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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

On

2/16/06

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By:

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

Shoji Kodama

Application No.: 10/688,287

Filed: October 16, 2003

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
IMPROVING THE INTEGRATION  
BETWEEN A SEARCH ENGINE AND  
ONE OR MORE FILE SERVERS

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No. 9177

Examiner: Safet Metjahic

Technology Center/Art Unit: 2161

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 16 of this paper.